CABLE & DEADPOOL
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BONUS-SIZED FINALE ISSUE!
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I'M BOB, AGENT OF HYDRA. I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BLOG, BUT I DO HAVE TIME TO POSE.
ANYWAY, MR. WADE WILSON IS DEADPOOL, THE MERC WITH A MOUTH--
WE EVEN HAVE A NICE VIGNETTE OF OUR LEGLESS SUPPORTING CAST. MIGHT BE THE LAST TIME YOU EVER SEE THEM, SO ENJOY.
BUT IF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT BY NOW, THINKIN'...LITTLE LATE.
HE WORKS AS A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR FOR AGENCY X, RUN BY ALEX HAYDEN, THE WEIGHT-CHALLENGED GUY THERE--ALONG WITH SANDI, HIS NIMBLE GAL FRIDAY; OUTLAW, PILOT, DRIVER AND ALL-AROUND GREAT GAL--
I DO NOT! WELL, I DO, BUT SHE'S A GREAT GAL, TOO.
BOB JUST LIKES HER RACK.
AND LAST, BUT ALWAYS LEAST, WEASEL, MY PAL AND WEAPONEER.
WE WENT TO THE SAVAGE LAND TO PROCURE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY THAT WOULD HELP CABLE'S FORMER COUNTRY OF RUMEKISTAN.
I GOT TO KICK SOME DINOSAUR ASS.
WE ENCOUNTERED SOME PROBLEMS, WHICH...UHM... RESULTED IN A BUNCH OF DINOSAURS RUNNING AROUND MANHATTAN.
URBAN DINO ASS-KICKING IS EVEN BETTER.
AND THEN THE DINOSAURS WERE... UHM...EXPOSED TO A SYMBIOTIC ALIEN THAT TRANSFORMED THEM INTO...WELL... SEE FOR YOUR-SELF...

SYMBIOSIS MITOSIS

FABIAN NICIEZA-SCRIPT MONKEY
REILLY BROWN-PLOTTER & PENCILER
JEREMY FREEMAN WITH BOB ALMOND-INKERS GOTHAM AND GOTOCOLOR-COLORISTS
DAVE SHARPE-LETTERER SCOTTIE YOUNG-COVER IRENE LEE-PRODUCTION
JON-MICHAEL ENNIS AND LAUREN SANKOVITCH-ASST. EDITORS
NICOLE BOOSE-EDITOR JOE QUESADA-EDITOR IN CHIEF DAN BUCKLEY-PUBLISHER

WHAT DID YOU DO, DEADPOOL?

SO... WHAT DID YOU DO?

GREAT, YOU GOT SIDEKICKS NOW.

?

WHAT DID I DO?

LEAP IN LOGIC MUCH? TWO PLUS TWO EQUALS FIVE MUCH? ASSUME MAKES AN ASS OUT OF U MUCH?

ACCIDENTALLY TELEPORTED ALL THESE DINOSAURS INTO MIDTOWN MANHATTAN.

BUT I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE VENOM-LOOK-ALIKE GIG, I SWEAR!

HE DIDN'T!

I CALL THEM A LOYAL SUPPORTING CAST, MR. HOLIER-THAN-THOU-FUGITIVE-FROM-THE-LAW, SPIDER-MAN.

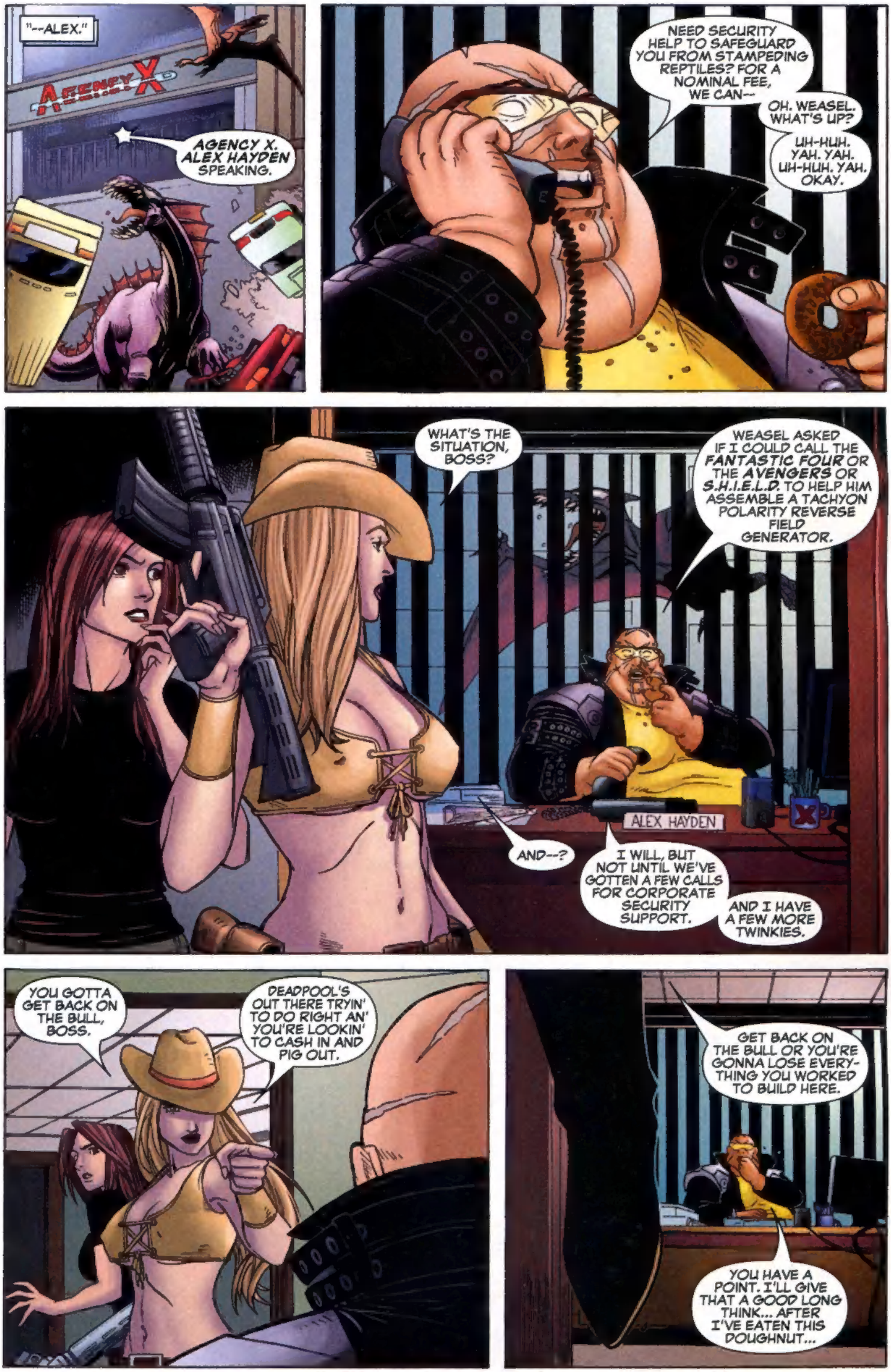
AND I DON'T HAVE TO MAKE A DEAL WITH MEPHISTO TO HAVE IT EITHER.

NEVER MIND.

COME TO THINK OF IT, ISN'T THE WHOLE ALIEN UNDEROOS THING YOUR SCHTICK?
IT'S A RACE OF ALIEN SYMBIOTES-- THEY BOND TO A HOST LIKE CHEST HAIR TO DAVID HASSELHOFF.
FORGET IT. OKAY. SYMBIOTE-COVERED DINOSAUR. WHAT KINDA POWERS WE LOOKING AT HERE?
SEE, EVEN YOUR PITHY REFERENCES HAVE BEEN TIME-TWISTED! I'M SO CONFUSED!
YOU'RE CONFUSED? WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?
SUPER-SPEED. STRENGTH.
AGILITY. INDESTRUCT-IBILITY.
FIRE BOTHERS THEM. SONICS REALLY RING THEIR BELL.
WHUD!
SONICS? WE COULD MAKE THEM LISTEN TO THE JONAS BROTHERS. THAT'S PRETTY PAINFUL.
PROB'LY THE ASPCA WOULD GET ON MY CASE IF I DID THAT...

KRAK!
THESE THINGS ARE LIKE MY DREAM ARCH-NEMESISISIS...
...OR IS IT ARCH-NEMESISIS!--?
I CAN PUMMEL, GOUGE, EVISCERATE AND MUTILATE AND THEY'LL KEEP ON COMIN'!
SNAP!
HEY, THAT'S MY FAVORITE GUN!
SEE WHY IT'S MY FAVORITE?
BLAM!
WHAM
I SEEM TO HAVE FOUND ANOTHER WEAKNESS--
--LOBOTOMIZING THEM!
SHLK
GHAGH!
BET YOU WISH YOU THOUGHT OF THAT YEARS AGO, HUH?
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
NO NEED TO THANK ME.
WHOA! WATCH IT!
YEAH, SHOOTING LIKE A TRIGGER-HAPPY MANIAC, ENDANGERING INNOCENT LIVES AND ANNIHILATING ENDANGERED SPECIES IS TOTALLY MY THING.
OKAY, WE NEED TO BIG-PICTURE THIS WHOLE MESS.

CAN I TRUST YOU TO AVOID SHOOTING CIVILIANS AS YOU SLAUGHTER THE POOR, RAMPAGING DINOSAURS?
STUPID QUESTION.
DON'T DO ANYTHING-- I'M GONNA TAKE A LOOK AROUND...
...BUT IF I SEE YOU SCREWING UP, I'M COMING DOWN ON YOU!
AH, GO WEB YOUR ZIPPER CLOSED.
ARE WE SAFE?
YOU'RE ALWAYS SAFE WITH ME AROUND.
HMM.
I WAS THINKING ABOUT HOW WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO STOP THESE DINOSAURS.
TELEPORTED OBJECTS RETAIN A TACHYON PARTICLE SIGNATURE. WE COULD--
YEAH, OKAY, YOU GO THERE, BILL NYE.
BOB AND I WILL STOP THE DINO-HORDES.
WE WILL?
I MEAN, WEASEL MIGHT NEED MY HELP WITH THE--
LOOK AT HIM CHASE AFTER THAT TRICERATOPS. HE IS SO BRAVE.
YAAAAAAH
YEAH, OKAY. WHILE YOU SAVE BOB FROM HIS OWN BRAVERY, I'LL WORK ON REVERSING THE TACHYON POLARI--
HEAD-ACHE NOW.
OF COURSE. I'LL CALL--


"--ALEX."
AGENCY X
AGENCY X. ALEX HAYDEN SPEAKING.
NEED SECURITY HELP TO SAFEGUARD YOU FROM STAMPEDING REPTILES? FOR A NOMINAL FEE, WE CAN--
OH. WEASEL. WHAT'S UP?
UH-HUH. YAH. YAH. UH-HUH. YAH. OKAY.
WHAT'S THE SITUATION, BOSS?
WEASEL ASKED IF I COULD CALL THE FANTASTIC FOUR OR THE AVENGERS OR S.H.I.E.L.D. TO HELP HIM ASSEMBLE A TACHYON POLARITY REVERSE FIELD GENERATOR.
ALEX HAYDEN
AND--?
I WILL, BUT NOT UNTIL WE'VE GOTTEN A FEW CALLS FOR CORPORATE SECURITY SUPPORT.
AND I HAVE A FEW MORE TWINKIES.
YOU GOTTA GET BACK ON THE BULL, BOSS.
DEADPOOL'S OUT THERE TRYIN' TO DO RIGHT AN' YOU'RE LOOKIN' TO CASH IN AND PIG OUT.
GET BACK ON THE BULL OR YOU'RE GONNA LOSE EVERYTHING YOU WORKED TO BUILD HERE.
YOU HAVE A POINT. I'LL GIVE THAT A GOOD LONG THINK... AFTER I'VE EATEN THIS DOUGHNUT...

OUT OF THE WAY, LADY!
WHAT IS GOING ON OUT HERE?
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
DINOSAURS. IN MANHATTAN. I SENT DEADPOOL TO THE SAVAGE LAND...
...AND THERE ARE DINOSAURS IN MANHATTAN.
PLEASE TELL ME IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE.
HEY IRENE! IRENE MERRYWEATHER!
IRENE MERRYWEATHER, FORMER REPORTER AND CHIEF OF STAFF TO MY FORMER BEST BUD, CABLE (WHO DIED AND LEFT ME WITH A SOLO TEAM-UP BOOK, THEN CAME BACK TO LIFE IN A BIG, SUCCESSFUL CROSSOVER THAT I WASN'T INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN) WHO'S NOW WORKING TO MAINTAIN DEMOCRACY IN RUMEKISTAN, CABLE'S EASTERN EUROPEAN NATION-BUILDING EXPERIMENT!
WADE, YOU IDIOT! WHAT DID YOU DO?
RRRR
UH-OH.

Oh my God.
Oh my God.
Oh my God.
GNYEEARR
SPLUTHWUPH
OW!
OW!
OW!
AH--!
THRBTTT
THRBTTT
THRBTTT
THRBTTT
YOU OKAY, SWEETIE?
UH-HUH. I THINK I PEED MY PANTS.
I DO THAT ALL THE TIME. WHY WOULD I WANT TO MISS THE COMMERCIALS, RIGHT?
HMPH.
YEEAHRR
THIS THING HAS MAJOR DOG-BREATH.

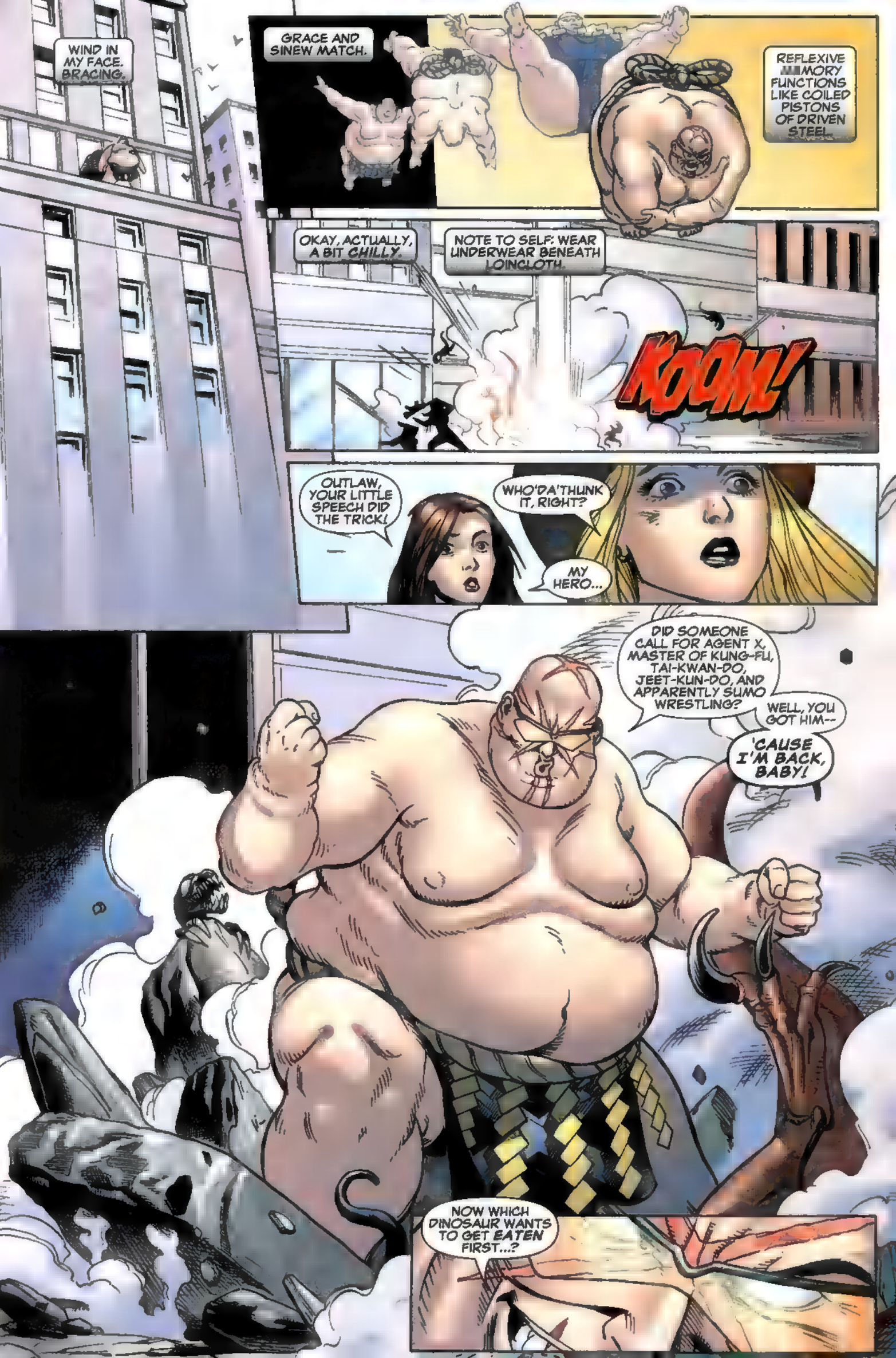
KRAKOOM!
DEADPOOL. WHAT DID YOU DO NOW?
MS. MARVEL. AND MR. WONDERFUL. MY FELLOW AVENGERS!
IT'S WONDER MAN. AND YOU'RE NOT AN AVENGER.
I REGISTERED! THAT MAKES ME PART OF THE INITIATIVE, RIGHT? I'M A LOYAL, GOOSE-STEPPING, VAGUE ANALOGY TO OUR CURRENT EVENTS!
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
MAYBE, BUT I'M AN IDIOT WITH A GREAT VIEW.
OH, AND BY THE WAY...
...APPARENTLY, KILLING THE DINOSAURS DOESN'T STOP THE SYMBIOTE. IT JUST MAKES THEM A LITTLE MORE EXTINCT.
WHAT A SURPRISE--YOU KNOW MORE THAN YOU'RE LETTING ON.
AND, YES, MS. MERRYWEATHER, WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE, TOO.
UHM...
OKAY, DINOS, MY BAD, FINE--BUT CARE TO ANSWER...

...HOW THEY GOT SYMBIOTED?
UHM...
I GOT 'EM ON THE ROPES-- TIME TO BREAK OUT THE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY CARD.
UH...
YOU DON'T HAVE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY, DO YOU?
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS. YOU TWO COME WITH US. THERE'RE GOING TO BE A LOT OF QUESTIONS TO ANSWER WHEN ALL THIS [redacted] OVER.
HOW ABOUT I ASK THIS QUESTION ON THE O'REILLY FACTOR--
--HOW DID THE MIGHTY AVENGERS FAIL TO PREVENT KILLER ALIEN SNOT FROM LEAKING OUT ALL OVER MANHATTAN?
HOW ABOUT I ASK THAT ONE... BOSS...?
...
THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE.
SO WHY'M I STANDING HERE WATCHING YOUR PRETTY PERT LIPS FLAPPIN' ABOUT?
"L[redacted]T'S [redacted]O BE HEROES!"
JUST WHEN YOU GET TO THE POINT WHERE YOU THINK YOU'VE SEEN IT ALL...

BE CAREFUL, JOHNNY, IT'S REGISTERING HIGHLY ANOMALOUS READINGS...
I SHOULD HOPE SO, REED. IT'S NOT FOR NOTHING THEY CALL ME--
--THE HUMAN TORCH!
FWOOOSH
THE SYMBIOTE IS RELEASING ITSELF FROM THE PTERODON.
PTERANODON LONGICEPS TO [redacted] SPECIFIC, SUE. NOW SECURE THE PTEROSAUR WITH AN INVISIBLE LASSO--
--WHILE I SUCK THE ALIEN INTO MY HIGH PRESSURE EXTRATERRESTRIAL CONTAINMENT UNIT!
ONE DOWN, A HUNDRED TO GO!
HEY, COOL CONTRAPTION, MR. F! I THINK I SAW ONE JUST LIKE IT ON A PORNO SITE.
I FIND THAT HIGHLY UNLIKELY...
REED, DON'T HUMOR HIM.
GOT ANOTHER ONE HERE!
WE'RE COMING, JOHNNY!
EPLIK
SPLORCH!
GROSS! DINO LOOGIE!

"... MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT IN STYLE!"
I'M STILL ALIVE. BONUS.
HEY, WILSON!
UHM...MR. THING...UHM... GRIMM. MR. GRIMM. YOU TALKIN' TO ME?
YOU JUST GONNA SIT THERE PICKIN' DAISIES, OR YOU GONNA HELP SHOW THIS CREEP WHAT TIME IT IS?
THE THING, EVER-LOVIN' IDOL OF MILLIONS, IS ASKING ME TO HELP OUT? ME?

"MAYBE I FINALLY BELONG!"
FROM THE DIARY OF AGENT X: ILL-FITTING CLOTHES. POOR OVERSEAS MANUFACTURING.
POSSIBLY RESULT OF A FEW EXTRA POUNDS. BUT UNLIKELY.
REMAIN A TRIM, LEAN FIGHTING MACHINE.
NOTE TO SELF: START THE "JUST SAY NO TO TEN MORE TWINKIES" DIET.
SOON.
SANDI AND OUTLAW NEED ME.
THEY [redacted] RIGHT...
...IT IS TIME I REDISCOVERED ALEX HAYDEN.
THOOM!


WIND IN MY FACE. BRACING.
GRACE AND SINEW MATCH.
REFLEXIVE [redacted]MORY FUNCTIONS LIKE COILED PISTONS OF DRIVEN STEEL.
OKAY, ACTUALLY, A BIT CHILLY.
NOTE TO SELF: WEAR UNDERWEAR BENEATH LOINCLOTH.
KOOM!
OUTLAW, YOUR LITTLE SPEECH DID THE TRICK!
WHO'DA'THUNK IT, RIGHT?
MY HERO...
DID SOMEONE CALL FOR AGENT X, MASTER OF KUNG-FU, TAI-KWAN-DO, JEET-KUN-DO, AND APPARENTLY SUMO WRESTLING?
WELL, YOU GOT HIM--
'CAUSE I'M BACK, BABY!
NOW WHICH DINOSAUR WANTS TO GET EATEN FIRST...?

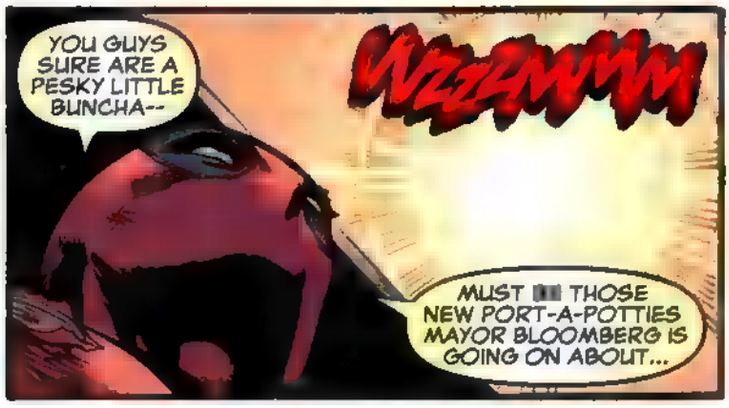
IN TIMES SQUARE...
AAAAAAAAAAAAA
STOP!
WHOA!
STOP, FIDO!
--ONSLAUGHT OF RAMPAGING DINOSAURS POSSESSED BY ALIEN VENOM SYMBIOTE PARASITES--
I THINK IT'S "SYMBIONT"...
--HAS LEFT ALL OF MANHATTAN YEARNING FOR HEROES!
WHOA! WHOA! WHOA!
FLLLLRRRPPPP
WHAM!
-NNNMMFF-
-HUFF-
AH.
AAH.
AAAAAAAAAAAAA

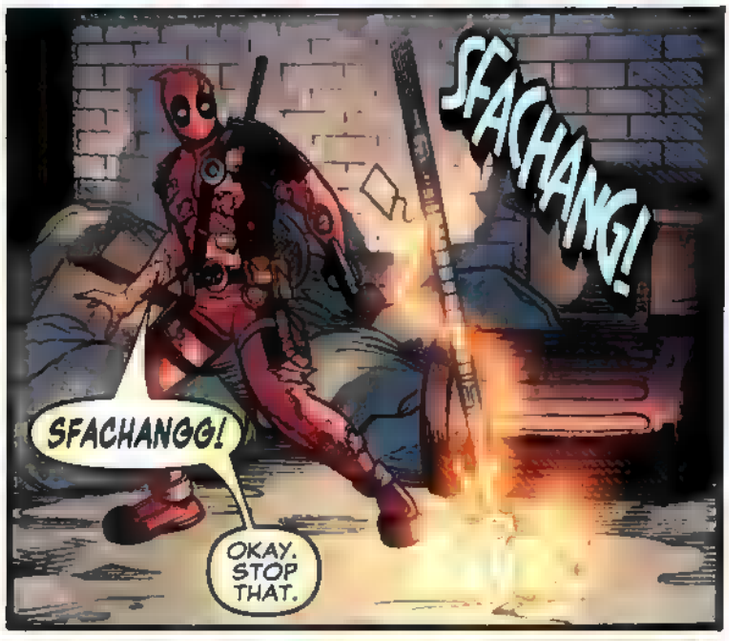
AAAAAAAAAAAA
SPLLLLCHUNK
LLLLCHAKKLL
RRRROAAAR!
AH
AH
AH
--A DARING, STUNNING MANEUVER THAT DOWNED THE DINOSAUR!
SSSSSSSTHTHSSSS
SIR, DOES THE H ON YOUR UNIFORM STAND FOR HERO, BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT YOU TRULY ARE, SIR?!
AH... YES...
...YES, IT DOES STAND FOR HERO, BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT I TRULY AM!
UHM... CELL PHONE... EXCUSE ME...
BRRLLP
BRRLLP
Saw u on tv that was SO hot! call me Allison <3
UHM... MESSAGE FROM MY WIFE... HEH-HEH... HMMM...

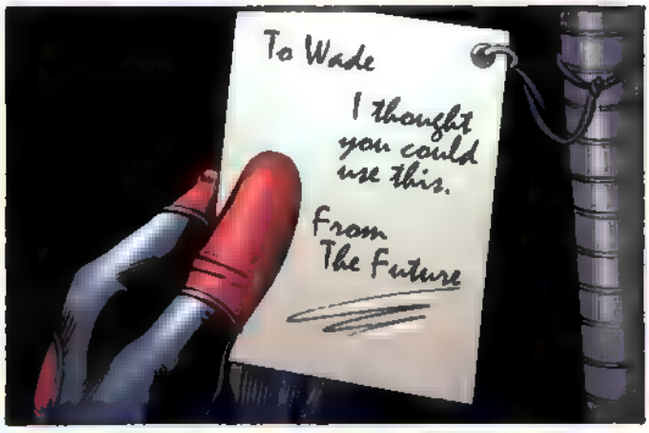
MEANWHILE...
THEY'RE EVERYWHERE. ALL THE CITY'S BEST HEROES. FIGHTING TOGETHER.
MS. MARVEL AND MR. WONDERFUL.
SPIDER-WOMAN AND MR. THING.
DUDE I DON'T KNOW.
SENTRY AND THE WASP...
ALL OF THEM FIGHTING TOGETHER...
...AND I'M STANDING RIGHT ALONGSIDE ALL OF THEM...
... AND WHEN YOU COME RIGHT DOWN TO IT, I SURE DON'T FEEL OUT OF PLACE HERE.
OF COURSE, MAYBE STANDING NEXT TO ICE-COLD SUPER-SPY, BLACK WIDOW MIGHT ALLEVIATE SOME OF THAT OUT-OF-PLACE THING A BIT.
BUT EVEN SO... THEY DON'T LOOK FUNNY AT ME.
SHE SAYS, "COVER MY FLANK" AND I DON'T MAKE A JOKE ABOUT IT.

I JUST DO IT.
PATOOM!
AND I DO IT WELL, BECAUSE LET'S NEVER FORGET--
SPAFLUNK!
--I MIGHT BE AN ANNOYING, BRAIN-ADDLED, ABSURDLY CONFLICTED INDIVIDUAL...
SHAFWINGG!
FWOOOSH
THWUMPH!

... BUT I CAN STILL KICK ASS BETTER THAN THE BEST OF THEM!
HMPH. I WAS SAYING MY SOUND EFFECTS OUT LOUD, WASN'T I?
SKRREE!


YOU GUYS SURE ARE A PESKY LITTLE BUNCHA--
VZZZZWWW
MUST [redacted] THOSE NEW PORT-A-POTTIES MAYOR BLOOMBERG IS GOING ON ABOUT...


SFACHANG!
SFACHANGG!
OKAY. STOP THAT.

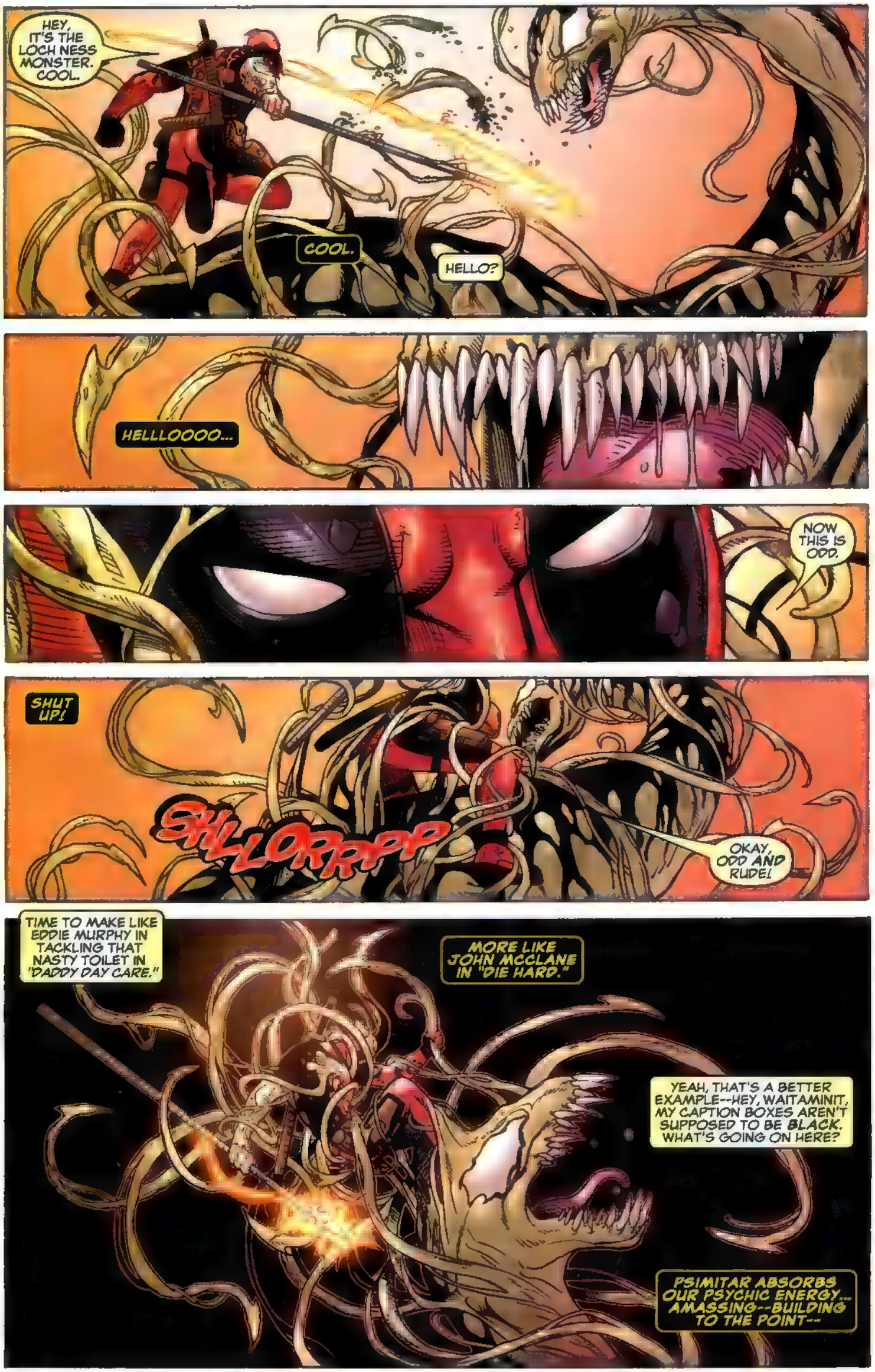

To Wade
I thought you could use this.
From The Future

YOU DIDN'T FORGET THE LITTLE PEOPLE WHO WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE YOU THE TOP-SELLING SOLO STAR YOU ARE TODAY.

EYAAAAK

SUCKS OUT THE SYMBIONT BUT KEEPS THE DINOS TICKING.
LEAVE IT TO NATE TO COME UP WITH A HUMANITARIAN WEAPON.
GRR--?

NATE TOLD ME ABOUT THE PSIMITAR--WORKS OFF PSYCHIC ENERGY.
SO I CAN MIND-FRY THE SYMBIONTS AND TURN 'EM INTO EPILEPTIC DRINKABLE YOGURTS UNTIL WE CAN BOTTLE 'EM UP.
POW
SKREEE!
OH, AND BY THE WAY, ALSO SAVE THE DAY.
WHAM!
WORKS FOR ME.
HOLD ON, WONDY--I GOT IT--
KRAKK


HEY, IT'S THE LOCH NESS MONSTER. COOL.
COOL.
HELLO?
HELLLOOOO...
NOW THIS IS ODD.
SHUT UP!
SHLLORRPP
OKAY, ODD AND RUDE!
TIME TO MAKE LIKE EDDIE MURPHY IN TACKLING THAT NASTY TOILET IN "DADDY DAY CARE."
MORE LIKE JOHN MCCLANE IN "DIE HARD."
YEAH, THAT'S A BETTER EXAMPLE--HEY, WAITAMINIT, MY CAPTION BOXES AREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE BLACK. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
PSIMITAR ABSORBS OUR PSYCHIC ENERGY... AMASSING--BUILDING TO THE POINT--

GUSHT!
GUSHKT!
HA! THAT ONE'S A FREEBIE!
SSSPRRRYEEEEAAAARRRGHH
WAS THAT--THE SYMBIOTE...?
NO... NO-- I THINK IT WAS WILSON...
PRETTY SURE--
IT KNEW. IT KNEW ABOUT MY HEALING FACTOR--IT COULD... LIVE FOREVER...
...MAKE ME--HIM--IT--AN UNSTOPPABLE, IMMORTAL BRAIN-EATING MACHINE...
NORMALLY, THAT MIGHT SOUND LIKE A GOOD DEAL...

WADE--?
...BUT NOT ANYMORE.
YOU OKAY?
NEVER BETTER, IRENE.
NEVER BETTER.
MUCH AS IT PAINS ME TO ADMIT IT, WILSON... THAT WAS WELL DONE.
I KNOW. BUT THANKS FOR SAYIN' IT.
AND MIGHT I ADD, I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED THE WAY THAT RED SASH WORKS ON YOUR HIPS.
UHM... OKAY...?
HEY, WHERE'RE ALL THE DINOSAURS? DON'T TELL ME YOU THOUGHT ONE OF 'EM WAS DEVIL DINOSAUR AND ALL '70'S THROWBACKS GET OFFERED MEMBERSHIP IN THE AVENGERS?
REED N' YER PAL WEASEL REVERSED THE TACHYON POLARITY BLAH BLAH BLAH.
HEADACHE NOW.
WELCOME T'MY LIFE.
THERE REMAINS THE QUESTION OF YOUR...STATUS...
YOU MEAN I CAN JOIN THE AVENGERS NOW?
NO, I MEAN... NEVER MIND.
JUST GO. FAR AWAY.
AN' WILSON... POKER NIGHT ON FRIDAY. BRING YER OWN [redacted]R.
DRINKING ALCOHOL IS NOT BECOMING TO A HERO, MR. GRIMM.
I'LL BRING A KEG.
DAYS LATER...
THE NEW YORK FORECAST FOR--
KLIK
THAT WAS SAMANTHA BEE REPORTING FROM PARIS--
KLIK

--ALIEN DINOSAURS IN MIDTOWN
KLIK
--SOURCES INSIDE THE AVENGERS INDICATE THE MERCENARY KNOWN AS DEADPOOL IS SOME-HOW INVOLVED
KLIK
SHE'S BEEN CALLED THE SEXIEST WOMAN ALIVE--
BEA-- AW, WHO'M I KIDDIN'...?
KLIK
FRIDAY NIGHT. THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO PLAY POKER.
AH, IT WAS NICE JUST T'GET INVITED.
WOULD RATHER HANG OUT HERE.
--WANTED FOR RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT, MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF PROPERTY DAMAGE, AND 29 COUNTS OF THREATENING AN ENDANGERED SPECIES
KLIK
I HOPE THOSE'RE COLD.
YOU BETCHA, MERRYWEATHER. COOL YOU COULD COME.
--POOL HAS A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR, AND EXPERTS SAY THE RECENT ATTACK WAS INEVITABLE
KLIK
NO USELESS MUNCHIES, WE'RE MAKIN' ALEX STICK T'THE DIET.
I GOT YOUR TEXT. CARROTS, CELERY STICKS, ALL THE RABBIT FOOD YOU COULD WANT. EVEN THE BEER IS--UGH-- LIGHT.
ALTHOUGH, YOU KNOW, I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT THE LOINCLOTH...
LONG STORY.
--AND THE CARD ATTACHED WOULD SAY THANK YOU FOR BEING A FRIEND.
KLIK
YOU KNOW... YOU DID GOOD OUT THERE, WADE.
HEY, THANKS.
SO... WHADDYOU GUYS WANT TO WATCH--?
END

DEAR DEADPOOL

Dear Deadpool,

I've been buying your comics since issue 20-something, after reading positive reviews on the internet tubes. I didn't know anything about you before that, and I must say this series is the funniest I've ever read. I also like my comics like my steak: interesting and well-done.

You've jumped to the top of my favourite comic people, so I'm sad to have learned about you and the book parting ways. :(Good luck with your future "wait and see" endeavors!

I'll class up the letter by giving Roman Numeral numbered questions:

i. Who's going to keep Bea Arthur's name out there? I heard if stars aren't recognized, they begin to fade. Much like the pictures in that time-traveling movie.

ii. Speaking of Roman Numerals, are you sure your name isn't Deadpoo I?

iii. Why can't I find cool merchandise of your logo like key chains or a simple black shirt? That sucks.

iv. If I wanted to learn more about you and your dastardly deeds, where should I turn?

v. You should release a spoken-word CD titled "Deadpool's Dastardly Deeds Not Done Dirt Cheap." Why? You have to further penetrated the market. First a spoken-word CD, then vitamin water, and then the world!

vi. In issue 48's letter page you ordered someone to bring cake. I have it on good authority that there is no cake. Sorry.

Just a fan,
Michael from
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Things are kinda lonely up in Winnipeg, aren't they, Mike? I mean, what with it being Winnipeg and all, you're Canadians and you couldn't even keep your hockey team. Ooh, Roman Numerals! How fancy!

i. The time-traveling movie is called "Back to the Future." If you are going to correspond with me, do your pop culture reference homework. Bea will be fine. Bea is above all. Besides, she's currently got a pretty big starring role in "Countdown" from the Distinguished Competition.

ii. It would be silly if my name were Deadpoo Roman Numeral I. Because an I is not an L. If I were Deadpoo Roman Numeral L, that would be funnier.

iii. I refuse to answer the merchandising question on the grounds it might infuriate me.

iv. All of my adventures from this series are available in trade paperback form, available online or from your local comic retailer. For upcoming appearances, keep reading...

v. I like the whole "vitamin-water as pathway to ruling the world" idea. Who knows what really goes into that stuff, right?

vi. If there is no cake, then can not eat it, too?

Dear Deadpool,

I have to say that Cable & Deadpool has been a great ride. I've been your biggest fan since 1992 and it was awesome to see you get a monthly of sorts again! I've stopped reading comics for the most part, but I still buy any of them that star you--I just can't get enough of your comic genius! That, and you're the only other guy I know who shares my unhealthy obsession for the beautiful babe, Bea Arthur. Why don't the rest of them understand?

Now, as always, on to the numbered questions (in Roman fashion):

I. What are your plans after you wrap up Cable & Deadpool? I'm sure we'll catch your mug here and there as a guest, but what about your own monthly gig?

II. Who do you prefer: Outlaw, Sandi, or both?

III. If they made doorknobs in the shape of chimichangas, would you buy them for your next Deadhut?

IV. This is my favorite Roman Numeral and I just wanted to type it...what's your favorite?

Thanks for all of the laughs...and continue to Make Mine Deadpool!

-Brian

Hey, Brian, always good to hear from a fellow True Bea-liever. We are few, but we are legion. Does that make sense?

Ooh, numbered questions. Wait, what's with Roman Numeral theme? Strange.

I. Nicole Next on Deadpool's schedule is an appearance in Marvel Comics Presents #10. He's also currently featured in Wolverine: Origins #21-25. As for Cable, you can catch him in his own series in March.

II. You answered the question yourself. I mean, c'mon... throw Irene in there and ranch dressing and you got like a gut-buster burger supreme, right?

III. But then I would want to keep eating my knobs. That might not be legal outside of Alabama.

IV. I like IV just fine. In fact, I think it's a Fantastic IV.

Team Deadpool,

You guys suck.

I've hated both Cable and Deadpool since the characters were created. Cable's been nothing but an "Ooh, look at me, I'm so awesome 'cause I'm from the future! I can do whatever I want because I have an apostrophe in my surname!" jerk and Deadpool has just been Deadpool.

Finally, after fifteen years of hating those two doofuses, Cable & Deadpool saw print... and I still hated them. But in time, I grew to become interested in Cable's plans for world domination--so what did you guys do? Pull him out of the book to participate in an X-Men story arc where any number of mutants with thighs the size of tree-trunks could have filled in for him.

Fine, that wasn't the end of the world -- and it did give me time to get to know Deadpool a little better. So of course, in time I grew to actually care about the little smart-mouth... SO YOU CANCELLED THE BOOK.

Oh, well. At least there's still the awesome Friendly Neighborhood Spider-Man and Dan Slott She-Hulk and Nicieza on Thunderbolts and--

Why must you people destroy everything I love...?

Adrian J. Watts
Melbourne, Australia

You're right, Adrian. do suck.

Dear Deadpool,

You are my favorite super hero ever! As soon as I turn 18, I'm getting a tattoo of your logo on my left upper arm. I heard they were canceling your book at issue 50. I now have a hard time going to sleep because of this transaction, but hey, Reilly Brown is writing the last 2 issues of your series. Now that is really cool. He is, like, my favorite artist and soon-to-be favorite writer. Well, I g2g. Bye, Deadpool.

From your biggest fan,
Kyle

Wow, a teenage comic book reader? Quick, someone put Kyle behind glass in a museum or something. He's an endangered species.

I think the idea is a smooth move and the ladies will love it, Kyle, but why wait until you're eighteen? Seriously, if you've loved me all this time, you know that flouting the rules mores of society is what I live for. Disobey your parents! Look where it's gotten me...

Nicole sez: Neither Marvel nor the Cable & Deadpool team condones unlawful behavior. Now please excuse me while I go untie the from Deadpool's mouth.

Dear Deadpool,

Would you ride a big wheel with us?

Johnny Dynamite &
the Big Wheel Biker Gang
West Chester, PA

Uhm... honestly... it actually sounds like a lot of fun. And, you know, seeing as...well... I GOT NOTHING [redacted] TO DO UNTIL MY NEXT COMIC BOOK APPEARANCE...

I would love [redacted] ride [redacted] big wheel with you guys. I'll be there [redacted] Wednesday.

Dear Deadpool,

I was going to start this e-mail with [redacted] string of curse words and begging. You see, I've recently read that the amazing title that is Cable & Deadpool is coming to an end. It seems Cable (recently dead) is getting his own title, and Deadpool (the coolest character ever...after The Cat) only gets a Marvel Comics Presents slot? Okay, so [redacted] MCP slot is good but it's not C&DP.

I've been [redacted] big fan of C&DP since the first issue (back when religion was going blue), and it's the best monthly title Marvel puts out. Heck, it's even won awards (Wizard's Funniest Letters Page, Comicboards.com's Peoples Choice Award). So with this (probably my final letter to C&DP), I've got a few things to say (not all are questions, but they [redacted] numbered!):

1) First, a big thanks to Fabian Nicieza for all that writing he does, the various artists that have worked on C&DP and Nicole for editing practically the entire series. Also thanks to Deadpool for answering my letters in issues 13, 19 and 25!

2) C&DP has lasted longer than most titles, is it going to make to issue 50?

3) "Hail Hydra!"

4) Was there anything that was going to be put in C&DP that was ever left out (like when directors show out takes on DVDs)?

I guess that's all I have to say...except for please don't cancel C&DP! (C'mon, I had to beg once.) It's the title that introduced me to B.A.D. Girls, made agents of Hydra cool, showed the world how powerful Cable can be, and lets Deadpool don X-Men outfits (still one of the funniest scenes in any comic ever!).

Regards,
Gary Pickup
Salford, Manchester, UK

Hey, Gary, as you can see from previous answers, there [redacted] some super-secret exciting plans for me down [redacted] road, just don't hold your breath waiting, [redacted] you can't hold your breath for more than a few months.

Yes, we won awards, [redacted] that's not why we did it, Gary. We [redacted] it for the love of you, our faithful readers. And for [redacted] girls. And for the money. But not for [redacted] awards... although [redacted] awards did help [redacted] [redacted] girls...

Ooh, numbered questions!

1) Nicole [redacted] been great, hasn't she? I mean, seriously, what kind of a thankless job is it [redacted] edit this title and deal with Nicieza for more than three years?

2) No. We're not going to [redacted] it [redacted] #50, unfortunately.

3) CUT OFF [redacted] LIMB AND ANOTHER TAKES ITS PLACE!

4) What happened in the editing room stays [redacted] the editing room.

To all the people behind Cable & Deadpool:

I am devastated. The worst news I have ever read was last night.

Cable & Deadpool was cancelled. How could such a travesty happen?

It feels like [redacted] part of me is dying. For over four years now, there has been this incredible book that I've looked forward to every month. Very few comic series have kept my interest for the entire run, very few comics have I ever craved like this. I haven't felt like this since Fabian was writing X-Men. And in truth I was [redacted] teen then. I'm now closing in on 27 (and probably will have passed my birthday by the time this is printed, if it is printed); this book made me feel young again.

I know that there are other humor books out there, but how many are this well written? How many make you care about two characters that were, no offense, horrible when they were created? While I grew to love Deadpool over the years, I never thought I could actually have [redacted] interest in what happens to Cable.

I guess what I am trying to say is that Mr. Nicieza is probably one of the most talented writers in the industry. He is able to handle so many tapestries when it comes to writing character development. I think the reason he has been my favorite writer since I first started reading comics (right at the end of The X-Cutioner's Song) is because he is so great at making characters very three-dimensional, personality-wise.

You felt each heart-wrenching moment in this book, no matter who the characters are. When Prester John looked out as Providence sunk, you could imagine what he felt. Irene was heartbreaking as she saw Cable kiss Domino; we the readers could hear it in our minds. And [redacted] the trials and tribulations Nate and Wade put onto each other every month were so real and frustrating, that no matter who was reading, they could identify with each of them. It is a shame this comic is no more.

I do not look forward to my life without this book. Working in the mental health field [redacted] I do, there [redacted] days where you are so bent, broken, beaten and saddened that [redacted] is hard to find a release. I found it in this book. Each issue made me smile and lose myself in it. When I moved out on my own, my copy of issue 13 was ruined. But by that point I had memorized each panel of each page. Now the memories fade. But I hope to always retain the smiles this book brought me.

Wade often would refer to the readers of this book [redacted] [redacted] singular being. I liked to think I [redacted] THAT reader and so did other fans of this book. Each of us converted more and more readers to the back issues and trades. It is a shame we were not able to recruit more. Wade, we have failed you.

Now I sit in hope that rumors of a new Agency X book will emerge, but unless it has Fabian, I don't know if it will feel right. To think, 4+ years ago so many of us were saying the same thing about Fabian taking over for Gail Simone.

But I digress, and just reached the second page. I just wanted to say to Nicole, Patrick, Ron, Jon, Liefeld, and everyone else involved with this book, especially Fabian: thank you for entertaining me monthly. And I wish the best of luck to all of you.

Sincerely,
Michael E. "Bairdduvessa" Higgins
Hyannis, MA

"Now the memories fade." Seriously, Mike? Already? What're you, goin' a bit senile? I mean, you haven't even finished reading the last issue and the memories fade already? I – I'm sorry, it's the last letter and I'm a little misty here.

It was a very heartwarming, touching, sincere letter. I [redacted] those.

And yes, we [redacted] blame you, our readers, for having failed us. If you HAD recruited more readers, we'd still be publishing this book! I mean, not with Cable in it, though we'd probably keep calling it Cable [redacted] Deadpool, because, let's face it, that's freakin' hilarious, but the point being, we'd still be going strong [redacted] [redacted] weren't for you, our faithful, loyal readers.

There. It had to [redacted] said.

Luckily, Michael showed [redacted] class and said it for us.

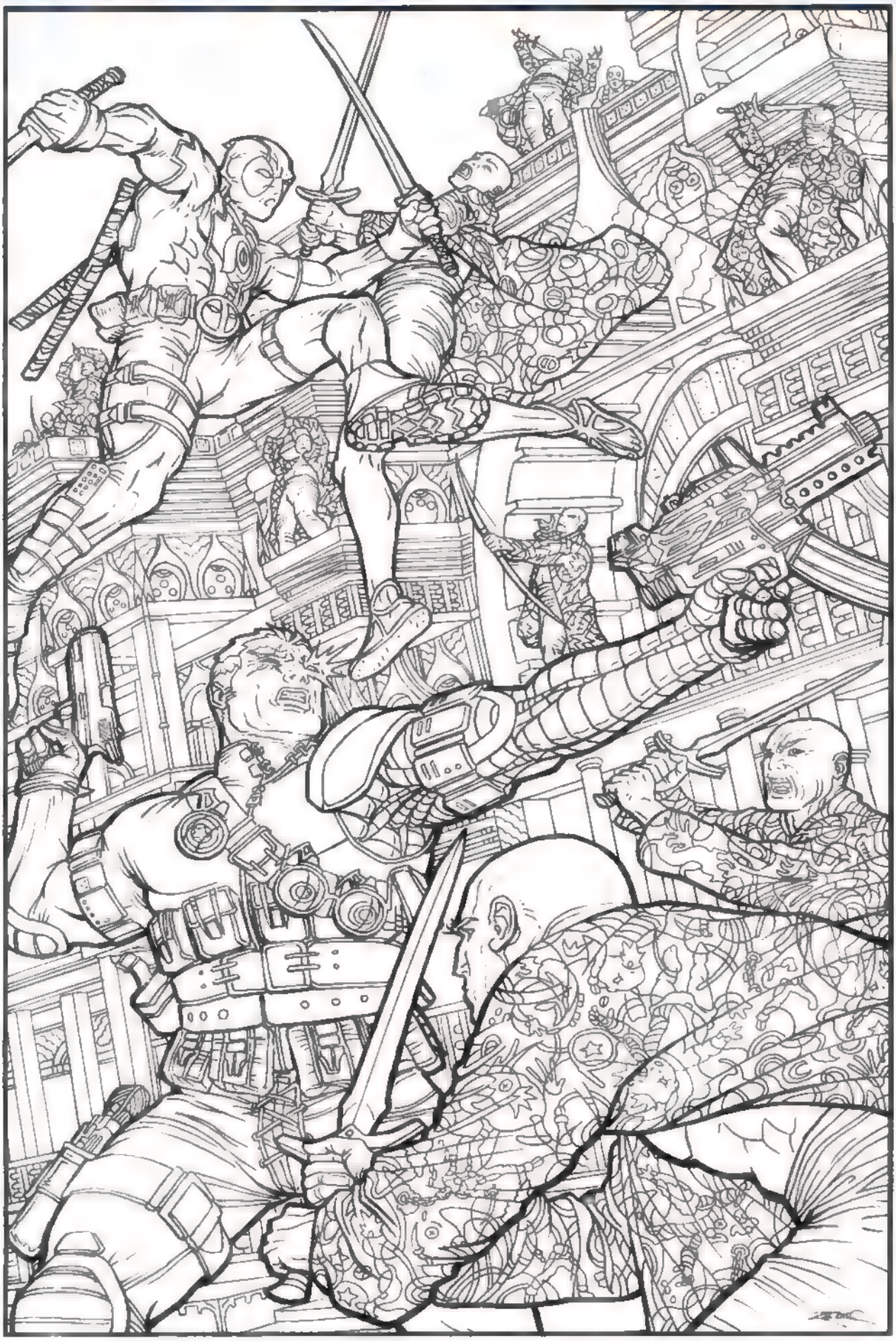
I think that ends things on a pretty high note, don't you?

[redacted] had fun, right? A few laughs, some angst, kicked some dino-butt. All good. Don't cry for me, Argentina. How many titles nowadays featuring cast-off characters with marginal sales last for 50 issues, much less with Nicieza writing them? Frickin' miracle, I tellya.

It ain't [redacted] for [redacted]. I still got my Marvel Girl costume, so if I [redacted] it, eventually I'll become Phoenix and rise from [redacted] ashes. You'll [redacted] Now, no one hold their breath waiting `cause it'll [redacted] a few months and I wouldn't want any of you to pop a lung, except for Gary, cause he's British and it would [redacted] fun [redacted] [redacted] him strain.

When I come back, I'm pretty confident that I'll [redacted] better then ever...

CABLE & DEADPOOL PIN-UP GALLERY



3 inch Dead-pool

Cap's shield

Agent X

Cable's Psimitar

Bob

shrunken head

Prester John's mustache

Wolvie's claws

T-ray's bandaid

duct tape

techno-organic baby

Weasel's glasses

TV remote

stuffed Deadpool

Chronal Vacuum Filter

chimichanga

Baby Cable

Cat's tattoo

dead clown

Marvel Girl's panties

FIND THE HIDDEN IMAGES!

ART BY PATRICK ZIRCHER

EDITOR'S NOTE

I've been working on *Cable & Deadpool* for almost as long as I've been at Marvel. Since this book has always gone hand-in-hand for me with being an editor here, it's especially bittersweet to have to say goodbye. I've come to appreciate these characters almost as if they were real people and real friends.

But even more importantly, there are real people who have become real friends through their involvement with this book. They're the ones who have made *Cable & Deadpool* what it is, in all its messy, sarcastic, violent, touching and sometimes continuity-burdened glory. This last issue is dedicated to all of them:

Fabian Nicieza likes to hide his integrity, talent and kindness beneath a veneer of bitter sarcasm. I am not fooled. He is someone who, even during his busiest workload, will promise a script on Friday and still get it done by Thursday. I can't overstate how much I've gained from having worked with such a consummate professional for such a long period of time. That, and I've learned how to put up a decent argument. I would've been fired long ago if I'd let him get away with all the subversive stuff he tried to sneak into this series.

Patrick Zircher had the longest tenure of any penciler who worked on *Cable & Deadpool,* and was a big part of defining its signature style. Another genuine pro, Patrick would go to great lengths to put thought and care into every detail of every page without missing a deadline. Sometimes his attention to detail bordered on the pathological. But ever the good sport, he took it well whenever I mocked him for his obsessiveness. And the book always came out better for it.

Reilly Brown draws images that can make you laugh out loud just by looking at them. He brought to the series a keen storytelling sensibility and a fine-tuned sense of humor that enhanced the story without ever stealing attention from the writing. When Fabian's schedule prevented him from fully scripting the two final issues, Reilly stepped in and volunteered. Despite his inexperience as a writer, I knew he had an innate grasp of how to tell a story, and a genuine love and understanding of the characters. I knew readers would trust him to guide them through the ending of the series, and he's proven me right. Now I'm just hoping that he finishes drawing this last issue on time.

The studio teams at **Udon** and **Gotham** were instrumental in keeping this book together during different segments of its run, and I'm grateful for the hard work and dedication of their staff.

Cory Petit and **Dave Sharpe** both cheerfully

and expertly brought their lettering skills to the comic, literally putting the words in the characters' mouths, sometimes on a breakneck schedule. They, too, were crucial to keeping this book running.

Various others have contributed their talents to making this book what it was. **Jeremy Freeman's** inking is a perfect complement to Reilly's penciled art. **Mark Brooks** established the very look and feel of the series, and has gone on to great success as a penciler. I'm proud that *Cable & Deadpool* had a part in his career. **Rob Liefeld** co-created one of the title characters and has been an enthusiastic contributor to several covers. **Skottie Young, Ron Lim, Lan Medina, David Ross, Staz Johnson, Jon Malin** and **Amanda Conner** have all stepped in to work on various issues and covers, and have each made the series richer with their involvement. I may not have room to name every person who contributed to this series and I apologize to any I left out, but their talent and hard work is greatly valued.

Thanks to **Shane Davis,** who rocked the cover to issue 21 and was never properly credited in the book. Shane, we owe you more than one.

Thanks to **Tom Brevoort** for trusting me to edit this book.

Thanks to the other Marvel staffers, especially **Jon-Michael Ennis** and **Lauren Sankovitch**, for their help and input. When Jon-Michael started as an intern, he read the entire series seemingly overnight, and instantly became a supporter and member of the team. Lauren mentioned being a *Cable & Deadpool* fan during her first job interview. There are many reasons why she got the job, but that one is my favorite.

And at the risk of sounding like the corniest Oscar speech ever given, none of this would have been possible without **you, the readers**. At first, we didn't know if this series would last more than 6 or 7 issues. We truly believed that any given story arc could be our last. Every time we got approved for another 6 or 7, there was a little sense of triumph. But every bit of uncertainty made us appreciate the opportunity to work on the book even more. We weren't making huge numbers, but the readers we did have were fiercely loyal. Your continuing support month after month was what kept the series going.

So now that we've reached our 50th and final issue, I thank all *Cable & Deadpool* readers, on behalf of the whole team, for Being a Friend.

Chimichanga.

Nicole Boose
January 25, 2008

CABLE & DEADPOOL PIN-UP GALLERY

ART BY ROB LIEFELD

CABLE & DEADPOOL: THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

BY BEN MORSE

This article also appears on Marvel.com.

You know what they say about all good things…

After lasting about 44 more issues than anybody thought it would, CABLE & DEADPOOL, the little book that could, bids farewell with issue #50 on February 20.

Launched alongside a quintet of other ongoing series in 2004, none of which lasted a year—except for SHE-HULK…cursed SHE-HULK—CABLE & DEADPOOL featured the unlikely buddy duo of the maniacal Deadpool and straight-laced Cable forced into teaming up again and again to consistently hilarious and often thought-provoking results.

For four years, C&D has made us laugh, cry and raise our eyebrows more than a couple of times, but now it's time to say goodbye. To help ease the burden of farewell, we here at Marvel.com had Nicole Boose, editor of all but six of the 50 issues of CABLE & DEADPOOL, round up the old crew and recount their 10 favorite moments, no particular order, from the series' run.

On a personal note, this writer will certainly miss reading a new issue of CABLE & DEADPOOL each month. Our relationship certainly evolved over the past four years, as I went from an eager-eyed college fanboy racing to the store for each monthly installment, to Wizard Magazine writer stumping as best I could for one of my personal favorite books, to Marvel employee who no longer pays for his comics and thus probably contributed to the end of CABLE & DEADPOOL.

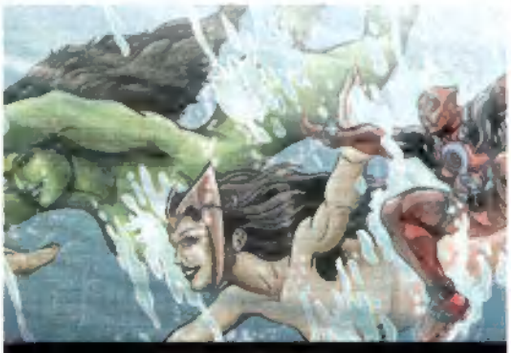
So…uh…sorry.

On with the show!

10. EARTH'S MIGHTIEST NUDES (CABLE & DEADPOOL #11)

Enlisting the help of the Fixer for a job, Deadpool happens upon an epic painted portrayal of the Avengers in all their naked glory on the inside of the malevolent mechanic's pool.

"[He found] Thor's Mjolnir impressive," notes former series artist and originator of the idea Patrick Zircher.

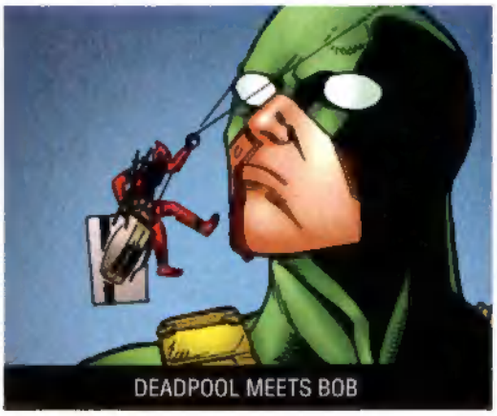


NAKED AVENGERS

9. OH, BOB… (CABLE & DEADPOOL #45)

In the latter leg of C&D, Deadpool picked up a nifty new sidekick in the form of Bob: Agent of HYDRA, initially a foot soldier of the terrorist organization who 'Pool took hostage, but whom the Merc With a Mouth quickly took a shine to, despite his…eccentricities.

"[I loved] Bob hailing HYDRA at inappropriate times," says series artist and plotter Reilly Brown. "Especially when he's in the 1940's with Captain America and starts thinking Cap might not be such a bad guy after all—and then the HYDRA programming kicks in!"



DEADPOOL MEETS BOB

8. EAT POWER COSMIC (CABLE & DEADPOOL #10)

His mutant telekinesis juiced up to its most extreme level ever, Cable goes toe-to-toe with the Silver Surfer in an effort to preserve his island haven of Providence and actually cracks the Sentinel of the Spaceways' board in the process!

"Oh my," remarks Zircher.

THE SURFBOARD TAKES A BEATING

7. HE AIN'T JUST HEAVY, HE'S MY CLONE…OR SOMETHING (CABLE & DEADPOOL #38)

In Round 1,287 of his ongoing feud with clone/dude with half his brain/something Agent X, Deadpool unleashes the deadliest of weapons: HYDRA's morbid obesity ray!

"I'd just redesigned Agent X with a cool new costume for this issue, and then when I got to page 15—well, I think Bob's reaction was just me looking in the mirror," laments Brown. "Time for another redesign…"

AGENT X'S FULL BODY MAKEOVER

6. THE LONGEST PEE (CABLE & DEADPOOL #17)

In the midst of battling an alternate universe Mr. Sinister over the dimension-lost and de-aged infant Cable, Deadpool calls a much-needed bathroom break.

"I didn't know if it would play to have Deadpool peeing for a couple pages," questions editor Nicole Boose. "But I guess readers didn't tire of it as fast as I thought they would."

DEADPOOL PEES

5. ONE MERC AND A BABY (CABLE & DEADPOOL #18)

Retrieving infant Cable from the House of M, Deadpool finds himself in the awkward—and adorable—position of the li'l cyborg mutant soldier identifying him as "Dedpoo. Da-Da!"

"Touching and weird," exclaims Zircher.

BABY CABLE

4. QUALITY TIME (CABLE & DEADPOOL #19)

With Cable gradually returning to his own age and looking very Nate Grey-like around age 17, 'Pool takes his erstwhile pal out for a beer so they can bond before he gets old and grumpy again…but of course Cable can't get served until he's old and grumpy again.

"The whole idea of Deadpool being Cable's 'parental guardian' was poetic ridiculousness," laughs assistant editor Jon-Michael Ennis. "I like to think of it as 'Messiah CompleX' before 'Messiah CompleX'."

3. MARVEL GIRL FOR A DAY (CABLE & DEADPOOL #9)

Deadpool agreed to help the X-Men take down Cable on one condition: he gets an X-Men uniform. And not just any uniform, but the beloved yellow mini-skirt and low-cut green top of Jean Grey during her stint as the original Marvel Girl.

"Originally, he was supposed to wear it for the whole issue," reveals Boose. "But Patrick thought the visual gag would get old too fast, so we changed it to just one shining moment. If you see the close-up of Deadpool's butt in that issue, you'll understand why Patrick didn't want to draw it in every panel."

2. FERAL FISTICUFFS (CABLE & DEADPOOL #41)

With Providence under siege by the Marauders and only our boys left to defend the island's secrets, Deadpool goes sword to claw with the ferocious Sabretooth in a battle of ruthless aggression and enhanced healing factors. When DP seems down for the count, Cable swoops in with an innovative solution.

"That was just fun to draw," smiles Brown. "And the way Cable finished him off [by throwing him into the ocean] was perfect."

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MASK

1. HOW IT ALL BEGAN… (CABLE & DEADPOOL #1)

"Wade Wilson, out of costume, is watching television and yells at the screen when the Sexiest Woman Alive is named Halle Berry instead of Bea Arthur," remembers Boose. "Then the phone rings. As soon as he realizes the caller is interested in his mercenary services, he excuses himself, goes off panel, then comes back with his Deadpool mask on. Once I read that, I knew I was going to like this series."

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LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

AWARD-WINNING WRITER, & INTERVIEW PRO, ED BRUBAKER

MARVEL: *Ballpark, how many interviews have you done regarding Cap since Captain America #25?*

ED BRUBAKER: I would guess a few hundred, probably. The vast majority of them coming in that first week or two from the time the book hit. It was pretty intense, really, to be in the eye of the storm like that.

MARVEL: *Since starting your run on the book, you've really put a focus on Captain America, garnering industry and mainstream attention for some incredibly controversial moves. Was that intended from the onset?*

EB: All I ever intended was to just write a Captain America book that would be the kind of superhero/espionage comic that I'd personally like to read. I just wanted people to take the book seriously on its own terms and do some epic comic book action and drama. I was a bit nervous about how the reaction would be when the Winter Soldier was revealed to be Bucky, but I knew I had a good story, and hoped that would win over any controversy.

MARVEL: *You've done the impossible so far in your Captain America run at every turn. Are there any ideas that you've pitched for Cap that have been shot down?*

EB: Uhh... This is kind of scary, but no. Tom Brevoort's said yes to everything I've wanted to do.

MARVEL: *Moving to Daredevil, you have your second year wrapping up. After putting Matt in jail, busting him out, and driving his wife crazy, what can you possibly do to top yourself?*

EB: Wait, I have to top all that? I thought I'd just let Foggy take up the mantle for a while and see how he does while Matt cries in his coffee.

Or... maybe I'll bring in a few more villains and have a lot of murder and mayhem instead. I haven't decided yet.

MARVEL: *Daredevil has existed in his own corner of the Marvel Universe (Hell's Kitchen) for a while now. If you could integrate him into any part of the rest of the Universe, where do you think he'd best fit?*

EB: I think it might be time for Matt to branch out a bit and not just care about one "hood" as it were, actually. I think maybe he needs to move around in the city more, and maybe even go to Jersey now and then. Aren't all the mobsters in Jersey now? The one coolest thing about Daredevil is that he fits in any urban environment, the grittier the better, generally. I enjoy that aspect of the book a lot, and I like that in many ways *Daredevil* is its own little world.

MARVEL: *Along with Matt Fraction, you also brought a "cool" factor to a character many thought was a joke for a while – Iron Fist. What is it about your take that seems to have really finally clicked with audiences?*

EB: I think it must be all the crazy over-the-top pulp era kung fu. It's mostly on Matt Fraction and David Aja, really. I started out as a co-writer and plot-master on *Iron Fist*, and have slowly moved back more and more and let those guys just go nuts. I do work on every issue, still, and sometimes there's a line of dialogue that people think is from Matt that is actually from me, but Matt and David really deserve most of the credit. I co-plotted and sort of script-doctored or edited the second arc here and there, at most. All the new Immortal Weapons were invented by Matt, I just said there should be six other cities with their own heroes and we should have a big tournament.

MARVEL: *After 2 years on Uncanny X-Men, you now have the door wide open to take the team in your direction. Anything you can tease us on?*

EB: Let's just say, I don't think we'll be seeing them in class anytime soon, or rebuilding Xavier's Institute.I've probably said too much, haven't I?

MARVEL: *Finally, you have an Eisner-winning book, Criminal, under the Icon line. For those who know your work from the Marvel U but are not familiar with Criminal, can you give us a few words on the premise?*

EB: Criminal is me and Sean Phillips (the award-winning artist of Marvel Zombies) just tapping into our love of noir and crime fiction and bringing it to comics in our own way. We've created a huge cast of characters, most of them thieves and murderers, but sometimes just people forced into bad situations out of desperation and a need to survive. It's a bit like *Sin City*, in that you can read any of the stories and not know anything about the previous ones, but in *Criminal*, when people fall off rooftops and land on cars, they die a horrible death. I'd really urge readers who are fans of my or Sean's work to check it out, since we both think it's the best stuff we've ever done, and we won a bunch of awards for it last summer, including Best New Series.

'Nuff Said!